

## **Chief Joseph Exciter Replacement**

The Chief Joseph Project is located on the Columbia River in north central Washington, just downstream from Grand Coulee project. The Chief Joseph powerhouse includes 27 main units and 2 station service units. The original 16 units were brought online from 1955-1958. Eleven additional units, 17-27, were added from 1977-1979, and were manufactured by Hitachi and are rated at 109.3 MW. The current total generator capacity for the plant is 2,614 MW and is the second largest producer of hydropower in the country.

This project will replace the exciters on units 17-27. The exciters are original to the plant when added in the late 70's. These assets are 30+ years old and are approaching the end of their useful life. Over the past few years there has been an increasing amount of preventive and repair maintenance required for the exciters. The amount of repair hours as the result of forced outages is increasing. The Corps team at this project first indicated that these exciters/breakers are worn out and need to be replaced almost three years ago.